

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A burial container for containing a body comprising:

a container body defining an enclosure and an upper opening through which a

5 body may be placed into the enclosure;

a lower panel having an opening formed therein to permit communication of
earth into the enclosure.

2. The burial container of claim 1 further comprising a removable lid for the upper

10 opening.

3. The burial container of claim 2 wherein the lid is provided with a lifting eye.

4. The burial container of claim 3 wherein the lifting eye is formed of stainless steel.

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5. The burial container of claim 1 wherein the container body is made of concrete.

6. The burial container of claim 5 wherein the container body includes reinforcing
steel.

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7. A burial container for burying a body comprising:

a container body having four side panels that define an enclosure and a top
opening;

a lower panel affixed to the four side panels and having a central opening therein to permit communication of earth into the enclosure; and
a removable lid for closing the top opening.

5 8. The burial container of claim 7 wherein the container body and lid are fashioned of steel reinforced concrete.

9. The burial container of claim 7 further comprising a plurality of rust-resistant lifting eyes secured to the lid to permit lifting of the lid from the container body.

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10. The burial container of claim 7 further comprising a peripheral lip on the lid for engagement of the top opening when the lid is placed on the container body.

11. The burial container of claim 7 further comprising an indentation in the lid for
15 reduction of weight.

12. The burial container of claim 7 wherein the lower panel provides a shelf surrounding the central opening.

20 13. A method of burying a body comprising the steps of:
disposing the body within a burial container having a lower opening therein for communication of earth into the container; and

orienting the body on its left side so that the body faces a direction that is substantially toward Mecca.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of orienting the body on its side further comprises placing a mound of earth within the burial container and resting the body atop the mound so that it is propped onto its side.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the burial container has a longitudinal axis and the method further comprises the step of orienting the burial container so that the longitudinal axis is approximately normal to the direction toward Mecca.

16. The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of covering the burial container with earth to create a burial mound.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the burial container is further disposed within a burial field of similar containers having the same orientation with respect to Mecca.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the burial field is provided with a buried layer of rock for drainage.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the containers within the burial field are oriented by surveying.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of consecrating the burial field.